

Saipan Tribune

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Is the MPLA's decision to have the pozzolan on Pagan Island be studied first before awarding a mining contract the proper course of action?



INSIDE



Child Killer

Long before Dena Schlosser took a blade to her baby's arms, her parents had begun to worry. In the years after she moved to Texas with her husband and children, their gentle, dependent daughter had become increasingly isolated.

MPLA sued to block \$3.45M payout

By JOHN RAVELO
REPORTER

To prevent the drawdown of some \$3.45 million in land compensation for the claim of the Malite estate, the Attorney General's Office sued the Marianas Public Lands Authority and its board members Friday in a complaint that seeks to prevent the release of the funds. (See sidebar on page 3)

Attorney general Pamela Brown, represented by her office's civil division chief, Benjamin Sachs, told the Superior Court that there are circumstances surrounding the transaction that create a "strong appearance of ethical impropriety and conflicts of interest."

The MPLA board approved the land claim, a matter that was already decided by the Trust Territory court in 1978. That court determined the compensation for condemnation of a parcel of land, which now forms part of the Marianas High

See MPLA on Page 12

16 nurses to leave DPH by end of this month

By SHAN SEMAN
REPORTER

A total of 16 of the over 200 nurses—about 8 percent—of the current nursing staff at the Commonwealth Health Center will not be renewing their contracts with the Department of Public Health.

According to department officials, though, the move was expected, in that majority of contracts with nurses expire this month.

"One reason why we're being hit is that majority of [contracts] are expiring this December," said Tina Santos of human resources. "We were expecting this and [have] started preparing for it."

See 16 NURSES on Page 12

'MRC settlement bill void'

By LIBERTY DONES
REPORTER

The Marine Revitalization Corp. settlement bill that the Legislature passed Friday is actually void, according to Senate legal counsel Michael Ernest yesterday.

In an interview, Ernest said that House Bill 14-270, which came under lengthy deliberation in both houses, is invalid because the legislative approval did not happen within four months after the 2003 settlement agreement was signed—as

See MRC on Page 12



SIMPLE JOYS

A girl finds joy after retrieving some of her stuffed toys at the typhoon-ravaged Dingalan, Aurora province, northern Philippines on Saturday Dec. 4, 2004. Relief goods started to arrive to famished survivors as the weather cleared today in villages ravaged by back-to-back storms that left 640 people dead and nearly 400 missing in the northern Philippines. (Story on Page 16)

Local

Mobil starts construction of \$2M Kagman station

By AGNES E. DONATO
REPORTER

Official groundbreaking ceremonies were held yesterday for a new \$2-million Mobil service station in Kagman.

The groundbreaking ceremony, held at the construction site at the intersection of Isa Drive and Kagman Road, marked the start of the Kagman Mobil Service Station. The new facility will be the oil company's twelfth station on Saipan.

"Mobil is pleased to add the Kagman station to its network of service stations. We would like to thank the government agencies who worked closely with our project engineers to ensure that the construction plans are balanced with the location's environmental surroundings," said Jeff Borja, president of Mobil Oil Marianas Islands Inc. "We look forward to being the newest member of the Kagman community when our site opens in early 2005."



AGNES E. DONATO

CNMI government officials join Mobil representatives in a groundbreaking ceremony on Monday at the construction site of the new Mobil service station in Kagman.

The service station will be the first constructed in the Kagman area and will feature a convenience store.

Borja said Mobil started planning the project two years ago, ensuring that it was economically viable and securing necessary permits from regulatory agencies such as the Coastal Resources Management and the Division of Environmental Quality.

He said environmental concerns raised by the agencies included the construction site being a potential wetland area. He said modifications had to be made to the project design in view of this concern.

Speaking on behalf of Gov. Juan N. Babauta, Commerce Secretary Andrew Salas welcomed the construction of a Mobil station in Kagman. He said the service station is a much-needed facility in the developing community, which has seen the addition of schools and a community center only recently.

COVENANT

WINZLER

The Saipan Tribune accepts unsolicited photos of holidays, weddings, baptisms, and other community and family events for free publication. Material submitted should be original and not copyrighted, in digital or print format. Must include a caption containing complete details (a description of the event, location of the persons in the picture, the date, and the place), the name of the contributor, and a contact number. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to edit the caption, the date of publication and the size of the picture. Contributors can e-mail their submissions to editor@saipantribune.com. To check if contributions are received, call 223-6287, 223-3448, or 223-8743.

‘Malite’s treated like animals by TT govt’

By JOHN RAVELO
REPORTER

Lawyers of the Malite estate vehemently opposed the complaint filed by the Attorney General’s Office, saying that the Malite heirs deserve just compensation after their land was obtained by the then Trust Territory government in 1968.

By filing the complaint to freeze the payment of some \$3.45 million, lawyer Pedro Atalig said the CNMI government effectively continues to maltreat the Malite heirs. Atalig also threatened to file a separate lawsuit against Pamela Brown to unseat her from her the AG post.

“The Malites were *finagaga*. They were treated like animals by the TT government. The CNMI government [AGO] continues to treat them like animals,” Atalig said.

Atalig echoed the statement by Superior Court judge Juan T. Lizama, who presided over a hearing on the AGO’s request for temporary restraining order to stop the draw-down of funds for payment to the Malite estate.

“*Finagaga*. The government treated everybody like dirt,” Lizama said during the hearing, eliciting claps from the jam-packed gallery of the courtroom. The judge quickly reminded the audience, though, not to clap. Assistant attorney general Benjamin Sachs responded that the situation is not the fault of the CNMI government, adding that counsel represented the Malite

estate during the Trust Territory court proceedings.

After a hearing that lasted more than two hours, Lizama said he would study the issues presented before him. As of press time, the court has issued no TRO.

Atalig argued against Sachs’ request for a TRO, speaking almost entirely in Chamorro. In an interview after the hearing, he explained that Brown has no authority to bring the complaint before the court, questioning the validity of her confirmation as attorney general.

He said Brown caused the filing of the suit despite the instruction of Gov. Juan N. Babauta to release the land compensation being claimed by the Malite estate. He said he would soon file a separate lawsuit against Brown, questioning her legitimacy as AG.

“Instead of respecting the decision of the governor, the Attorney General instituted a lawsuit in direct contravention of its client’s wishes, the governor. When the governor ignores the AG’s advice, the AG runs amok,” Atalig said.

“The AG in the NMI is not an elected AG like Guam. However, the NMI AG treats herself as one ignoring the wishes of her client, Gov. Juan N. Babauta,” he continued.

Atalig said the court should not grant the request for a TRO because the AGO has not exhausted administrative remedies. Following the Marianas Public Lands Authority board’s decision favoring land compensation for the Malite

heirs on Aug. 13, 2004, the AGO never appealed the decision before the MPLA board.

He said the AGO failed to appeal the decision within the time frame allowed by law. “Thus, plaintiff [CNMI government] has waived his administrative hearing and thus is precluded from appealing the board’s decision...for administrative hearing for any board action for which a party affected by its decision is aggrieved,” Atalig said.

Atalig justified that the estate is only claiming money damages, which would not result in irreparable injury to the CNMI government, citing precedent court rulings. He belittled the

AGO’s probability to succeed on the merits in the lawsuit it filed against the MPLA, its board members, the Commonwealth Development Authority, and the Malite estate’s administrator.

Atalig, a former CNMI Supreme Court justice and former MPLA board member, said public outcry would result if the court favors the AGO’s complaint.

He also said the passage of pieces of legislation had the intent to compensate persons affected by the Trust Territory government’s taking of private property based on eminent domain, referring to Public Laws 13-17, 13-25, and 13-37.

“The statutes were created to bring to a close these outstanding land disputes between the government and private persons victimized by government taking of their private lands without just compensation,” Atalig said.

“These pieces of legislation were forwarded to the AG’s office for their review and comments before being signed into law by the governor.

For the AG to now complain these statutes are improper or wrong, [and] disturbing and puzzling,” he added.

Meanwhile, Atalig said that his sister, MPLA board member Benita Atalig-Manglona, abstained from voting on the land compensation request by the Malite estate, which was represented by the lawyer’s co-counsel and brother, Antonio Atalig.

PHI

Fitial open to proposed non-partisan summit

House Speaker Benigno Fitial said the House of Representatives would be willing to assist in Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio’s proposed summit to discuss pressing economic, social, and political issues facing the CNMI.

“I will ask the Legislative Bureau to assist in facilitating your recommended summit,” said Fitial in a Nov. 30, 2004 letter to Tenorio.

Tenorio earlier issued a statement calling for all CNMI leaders to convene a non-partisan summit to tackle crucial issues surrounding the economy, education, and local workforce.

Tenorio aired his concerns in view of the global lifting of quota restrictions by Jan. 1, 2005 as well as moves among long-time nonresidents to petition for permanent residency in the CNMI or U.S. citizenship.

He said the CNMI community should meet in a summit to discuss replacement industries for the garment sector, prospects of future investment potentials, the islands’ continuing reliance on nonresident workers



Fitial

and the future of these workers and their long term and potential permanent presence in the CNMI, among other things.

Fitial said he applauds Tenorio on his move.

“I also want to thank you for your concern for our indigenous population, as we grapple with the challenges posed by rapid technological developments and a highly competitive 21st century global economy, which might leave our residents mired in poverty, if we are not able to adapt to rapid changes and the constant need for education and training,” said Fitial. (*Liberty Dones*)

MEGABYTE
CMYK

Senate OKs double dipping for teachers, medical professionals

By **LIBERTY DONES**
REPORTER

The Senate has approved an initiative that would allow retired teachers and medical professionals, including nurses, to be re-employed without them losing their retirement benefits.

The Senate passed Senate Legislative Initiative 14-1, which aims to amend the Constitution “to explicitly state that qualified retirees may be reemployed as classroom teachers, doctors, nurses, and other medi-

cal professionals without loss of retirement benefits, regardless of the individual’s occupation prior to retirement.”

The measure would pave the way for “double-dipping” among qualified professionals and eliminate the time limitation on such re-employment.

Currently, qualified retirees are only allowed a maximum of two year re-employment.

The measure has to be passed

by the House, then placed on the ballot during the next general election for people to vote on. Only when it gets the majority vote will it become effective.

A similar measure was introduced in the House of Representatives. House Education Committee chair Rep. Justo Quitugua introduced House Legislative Initiative 14-9, which provides that the government can re-employ class-



Quitugua

room teachers and nurses for an unrestricted period of time.

Earlier, Quitugua said that the two-year double dipping deadline should be removed for certain professionals in view of the current shortage of personnel in their fields.

“We have to extend it [for] more than two years because we still can’t produce enough professionals such as teachers, nurses, doctors, etc.,” Quitugua said.

Without the constitutional

amendment, many of these re-employed professionals would have to leave, creating a negative impact on the workforce, he said, adding that some of these individuals are employed as heads of certain programs.

To keep a balance and prevent abuse, Quitugua said the Legislature would pass an enabling law “to protect our young generations.”

Double dipping is prohibited in other professions because it

drains the government’s retirement system funds.

Under this practice, the employer, which is the government, pays the member or a retiree twice in terms of pension benefits and salaries. This happens when a retired member who is already receiving his or her pension is re-employed and accumulates new pension benefits and salaries, while retaining the pension earned from his or her previous employment.

Over 50 percent of MPLA lessees violate agreement

By **AGNES E. DONATO**
REPORTER

More than 50 percent of public land lessees have been in violation of their lease agreement with the Marianas Public Lands Authority, MPLA compliance chief John Gonzales said yesterday.

According to Gonzales, most of the violations involved unauthorized sub-leasing or the use of the lands for purposes other than that stated in the lease agreement.

However, Gonzales said that while MPLA discourages such actions, the blame could not be placed entirely on the lessees. He admitted that Public Lands itself had at times been lax in

enforcing the lease agreements.

“We recognize that both parties have been at fault at some point. We’re trying to change that by taking a more proactive approach in dealing with our lessees and permittees,” Gonzales said in an interview yesterday. “We’re trying not to be inconsiderate, arrogant enforcers. Instead, we meet halfway with lessees, hear their problems, and try to humanize the situation.”

He said violations could result in automatic termination of the lease agreement. However, the MPLA Compliance Division normally imposes a reasonable fine or allows lessees to simply correct the violation.

For instance, lessees who

have entered into sub-lease agreements without MPLA’s consent are allowed to submit a request to ratify the already executed sub-lease contract.

Nevertheless, Gonzales maintained that the MPLA Compliance Division is not letting up in its collection duties.

He noted that MPLA receives no funding from the central government and relies solely on revenues from leases and permits.

“I think that we could realize an expanded revenue stream if we could succeed in our collection efforts and in getting individuals or businesses who are using public lands without authorization to apply for permits,” he said.

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CUC lifts ‘boil water’ notice for Saipan

By AGNES E. DONATO
REPORTER

Saipan residents no longer need to boil their water as the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has corrected the problem with its water system.

CUC lifted the “boil water” notice after samples taken from the utility firm’s Saipan water system tested negative of harmful bacteria which, when

ingested, could cause gastrointestinal diseases.

Pamela Mathis, CUC special advisor for corporate communications, said the water quality problem on Saipan was corrected through efforts of the water division, whose crews went through Saipan’s water system looking for possible mechanical, technical, or electrical problems that may have caused the contamination.

Mathis said CUC personnel also checked its water treatment facilities to make sure that “we’re not over-chlorinating or under-chlorinating.”

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Division of Environmental Quality earlier cautioned the public to boil CUC-supplied water, especially before drinking or using it for cooking and food preparation.

EPA Pacific Islands Office manager John McCarroll said the utility firm’s water system was contaminated with E. coli bacteria. He added that problem caused alarm, compounded as it was by inspection findings that CUC’s water system lacked chlorination and has leaks that make it prone to exposure to other contaminants.

DEQ director John Castro instructed CUC to issue a “boil water” public notice daily for at least two consecutive weeks, until the problem is resolved.

“We are pleased to report that the problem has been corrected and that it is no longer necessary to boil the water,” CUC told its Saipan customers in a public notice. “We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience.”

Rota residents, however, are

still advised to boil their water, which has been contaminated with E. coli bacteria since Nov. 30.

“The CUC Water Division is working with DEQ to resolve the problem. We will inform you when tests show no bacteria and you no longer need to boil your water. We anticipate resolving the problem within a week,” CUC told Rota customers.

Coral reef task force calls for coordination of efforts

MIAMI—The U.S. Coral Reef Task Force called for improved interagency coordination to avoid adverse coral

reef impacts during spawning season, and for the establishment of interagency working groups to develop standard

mitigation protocols and best management practices, as they wrapped up a two-day meeting yesterday in Miami.

“It is critical we strengthen efforts to insure the conservation of these marine resources,” said Timothy Keeney, deputy

assistant secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and Task Force co-chair. “As the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy notes, healthy coral reefs support millions of dollars in economic activities in U.S. coastal communities and hold tremendous potential for pharmaceutical and medicinal products that can address human health needs. The actions we took today will help implement that conservation.”

The task force passed two resolutions during its 12th biannual meeting. The first recognized that corals are the primary reef builders that create habitat for tens of thousands of species of plant and animal life, and that as such their spawning periods are vital to their continued survival and those of the plants and animals who use the reefs as habitat.

The task force called on all federal agencies conducting activities in coastal waters adjacent to or on coral reefs to assess activity impacts on coral reproduction and life cycles. It further called for development of additional forecasts of coral spawning events to help avoid impacts on coral reproduction.

The second resolution called for the establishment of interagency working groups—federal, state and territories—to develop and “implement a more effective and efficient mitigation process for coral reef ecosystems.” This effort is another step that reflects the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy’s call for better coordination of ocean resource management. The task force further called for “fully considering support for the interagency working groups as a high priority for funding in applicable areas.”

In addition to the resolutions, a major outcome of the meeting was the full-scale launch of “Three-Year Local Action Strategies” in each of seven task force jurisdictions. Each jurisdiction has spent the past year developing these local strategies to translate national priorities into measurable local projects.

White House Council of Environmental Quality chair James L. Connaughton brought good news to this effort announcing that President Bush will request \$2.7 million to support state and

local coral conservation efforts to implement the strategies.

“Better coordination of environmental efforts is always worthwhile,” said Marshall Jones, deputy director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. “The Task Force is adopting a policy we know will lead to concrete improvements in how we protect our reefs.”

Local Action Strategies have been developed to bring the goals of the National U.S. Coral Reef Action Plan to the local level. They seek to address six priority threats to corals: overfishing, land-based sources of pollution, recreational overuse and misuse, lack of public awareness, climate change and coral bleaching, and disease.

“The implementation of these local action strategies has allowed the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force agencies to identify local needs, connect local priorities to national goals and better coordinate agency action in support of those efforts,” noted Roger Griffis, coordinator of NOAA’s coral reef conservation program.

The seven jurisdictions impacted by these plans are Florida, Hawaii, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Puerto Rico and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The two-day public meeting featured an expert panel on building resilience in reef ecosystems in south Florida; a presentation on Australia’s latest reef management efforts; and updates on key forthcoming reports including the State of U.S. Reefs, Reefs at Risk, and recent report of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy.

A series of workshop symposiums were also held in conjunction with the formal business meeting. These workshops were designed to educate Task Force agencies and the interested public about Florida’s coral reef threats and conservation successes, and to fuel support and involvement in local initiatives. The workshops were free and were attended by federal, state and territory agency representatives; Florida coral reef managers and researchers; national and local conservation organizations; and the interested local public. *(PRNewswire)*

Island Snapshots



IN HONOR OF THE KING

The Thai community of Saipan celebrated their King Bhumipol's birthday on Dec. 5 by cleaning up along Beach Road from Ada Gym to the Pacific Islands Club. They separated into two groups, which started from each end and met in front of Town House. The Thai community cleans up Beach Road every year to honor their king and the CNMI community.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



UP, UP AND AWAY

Tinian Mayor's Office employees get a lift from a bucket truck of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. as they prepare for the holiday season with the installation of Christmas decorations.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



3D TEAM

Members of the 3D Elves Band led by 3D vice chair Rose T. Ada-Hocog, in Santa cap, and officers from the Department of Public Safety pose after the proclamation signing held Friday last week at the Governor's Office declaring December as Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month.

SHAN SEMAN



A TREE FOR PEACE

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela with a staff member of Hiroshima City prepare to officially plant a dogwood tree that was donated by the United States' mayors at the recent 2004 Japan-U.S. Cities Summit in Hiroshima, Japan on Economic Progress and Business Forum, at the personal invitation of the mayor of Hiroshima in November.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



RAIN OR SHINE

Two youth volunteers of the House of Manhoben clear a portion of the Coral Ocean Point beach Saturday last week as part of a cleanup activity organized by the group.

SHAN SEMAN

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Rota workshops on noni, da'ok

How can CNMI farmers export high-value products to the world market? Find out how by attending two workshops conducted by Edgar Cocker, MBA at the Rota Campus of Northern Marianas College from 8:30am to 3pm.

On Tuesday, Dec. 7, you will learn how to make capsules and herbal tea from noni leaves. On Thursday, Dec. 9, Cocker will teach the science and processing of edible and essential oils. The focus will be on oils from the indigenous da'ok tree, coconuts and used cooking oil. Later that day you will learn how to barcode your products for efficient export to the world.

For more information, call the Rota Campus of NMC at 532-9511 or 532-9477.

Smaller share of the \$2.5B pie for NMI?

A new formula in the distribution of homeland security grants may have already resulted in a reduction of such funding for the CNMI and other insular areas.

A report on GovExec.com about the award of some \$2.5 billion in grants to state and local governments by the Homeland Security Department on Friday said that more money would be targeted to areas with the greatest risk of attack.

The revised formula came about after previous Urban Area Security Initiative funding efforts were criticized for not providing enough money to areas at the greatest risk of attack, while providing too much to areas with relatively low risk.

The report cited a recent report by American Enterprise Institute fellow Veronique de Rugy, which said that the Virgin Islands, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and Wyoming

received the highest grant dollars per capita last year, while New York fell third to last.

Under the revised funding formula, cities and urban areas with the greatest security needs will get more money than ever this year.

This time, New York City will receive about \$207 million through the UASI program, far more than any other city.

“This increase in funds is a critical and urgently needed step towards helping us address New York’s many homeland security needs,” said Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y. “I will continue to fight for New York by ensuring that homeland security funds be allocated

based on threat, risk and other appropriate factors, as the 9/11 commission recommends.”

Cities receiving the next highest allocations are Washington, DC, and Los Angeles received the next highest allocations, which get about \$78 million and \$61 million respectively.

“This funding enhances the preparedness of the entire nation while targeting resources where they are needed most,” said DHS Secretary Tom Ridge, in announcing the list of grant recipients for 2005.

The amount of funding available through the UASI program is the highest it’s ever been since the program was started three years ago, said

DHS spokesman Marc Short.

“The president lobbied Congress for more funding to be distributed through the UASI because it is a risk-based formula ... [and] Congress went in that direction this year,” Short said. “The funding for UASI always has been risk-based. But this year, you can see a decided shift into providing more funding for that program.”

The overall amount of grant funding available to state and local governments for 2005 is actually less than 2004 due to cuts to other grant programs, such as Citizen Corps, Fire Act Grants, state and local training initiatives, training exercises and technical assistance. Over-

all, the amount of grant funding available to state and local governments decreased by \$805 million from fiscal 2004.

DHS manages two primary grant programs for state and local governments. About \$1.66 billion in grants will be distributed in 2005 through the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which is intended to create a baseline of preparedness across the nation. About \$855 million will be distributed through the UASI, which targets grants to areas with the greatest security needs based on population, critical infrastructure, threat information, and law enforcement investigations and enforcement activity.

Top Japan tour wholesalers hold annual meet on Saipan

The Marianas Visitors Authority recently hosted the members of the Japan Marianas Tourism Club at their bi-annual meeting on Nov. 29, 2004 held at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The members were also hosted with a welcome dinner and a friendly round of golf as added activities while on Saipan.

The JMTC members consist of presidents and travel managers that meet twice a year with the MVA to address tourism related topics such as seasonal marketing strategies, environmental concerns, and government regulations.

As a result of the JMTC meeting, the MVA has formulated a Group Campaign designed

to attract more group travel from Japan to the CNMI. The other issues discussed included visitor arrival projections and the Immigration and Customs procedures at the Saipan International Airport.

This years JMTC participants include Holiday Tours Micronesia, JALPAK, Nippon Travel Agency, Pacific Micronesia Tours, R&C Tours, Japan Airlines, Northwest Airlines, and Continental Airlines.

The following MVA members have contributed to the success of the JMTC meeting (in no particular order): Dai-Ichi Hotel Saipan Beach, Kingfisher Golf Links, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and DFS Saipan.

GFT applauds PacifiCare’s victory in suit filed by AG

The Guam Federation of Teachers welcomed yesterday the decision by a Superior Court of Guam judge to reject the attorney general’s office request to temporarily stop PacifiCare Asia Pacific from providing health insurance to GMT.

After hearing the court’s decision, GFT president Matt Rector said, “Justice has prevailed and now our members can enroll in an excellent affordable health plan without fear.”

With this, GFT and PacifiCare are encouraging all eligible members of the GFT’s bargaining groups to come in this week to enroll. The GFT office will be open from 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday to enroll eligible individuals the PacifiCare Health Plan.

GFT is offering a health plan provided by PacifiCare Asia Pacific. PacifiCare Asia Pacific is a part of the PacifiCare Health Systems. PacifiCare serves more than 3 million health plan members and approximately 9 million specialty plan members nationwide with annual revenues of more than \$11 billion.

“If you are an active member of the GFT, eligible to join or a working person on Guam, contact the GFT office for information on how you can take advantage of the new GFT/PacifiCare Health Plan,” PacifiCare said in a statement.

“After 39 years on Guam it is time that the GFT stand up and be provided a health benefit that

not only is affordable, but offers its members COBRA coverage, the ability to keep their insurance for up to 18 months, even if they lose their job or end up in a non-pay status,” said Rector.

The GFT plan also provides a two party rate to help single parents with one child and includes a plan with an affordable co-payment for big families.

GFT vice president Tim Fedenko stated that he views this effort by GFT as a natural extension of GFT’s “community first’ philosophy.”

GFT also has a free checking account offer by First Hawaiian Bank. First Hawaiian Bank was founded in 1858 and is the oldest financial institution in Hawaii. First Hawaiian has 56 branches throughout Hawaii, three in Guam and two in Saipan. Principal subsidiaries include First Hawaiian Insurance, Inc. and First Hawaiian Leasing, Inc. First Hawaiian has been helping Hawai’i’s labor unions longer than any other trust company in Hawai’i. We handle \$3 billion of union fund assets.

“We also have a special offer from AM/ Moylan’s insurance on home and automobile insurance. AM’s as part of this effort has AFLAC representatives on site. Our offices will be open for enrollment until Dec. 15 from 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Call our office for information at 735-4390,” PacifiCare said. **(PR)**

HARLEYS
CMYK

Opinion

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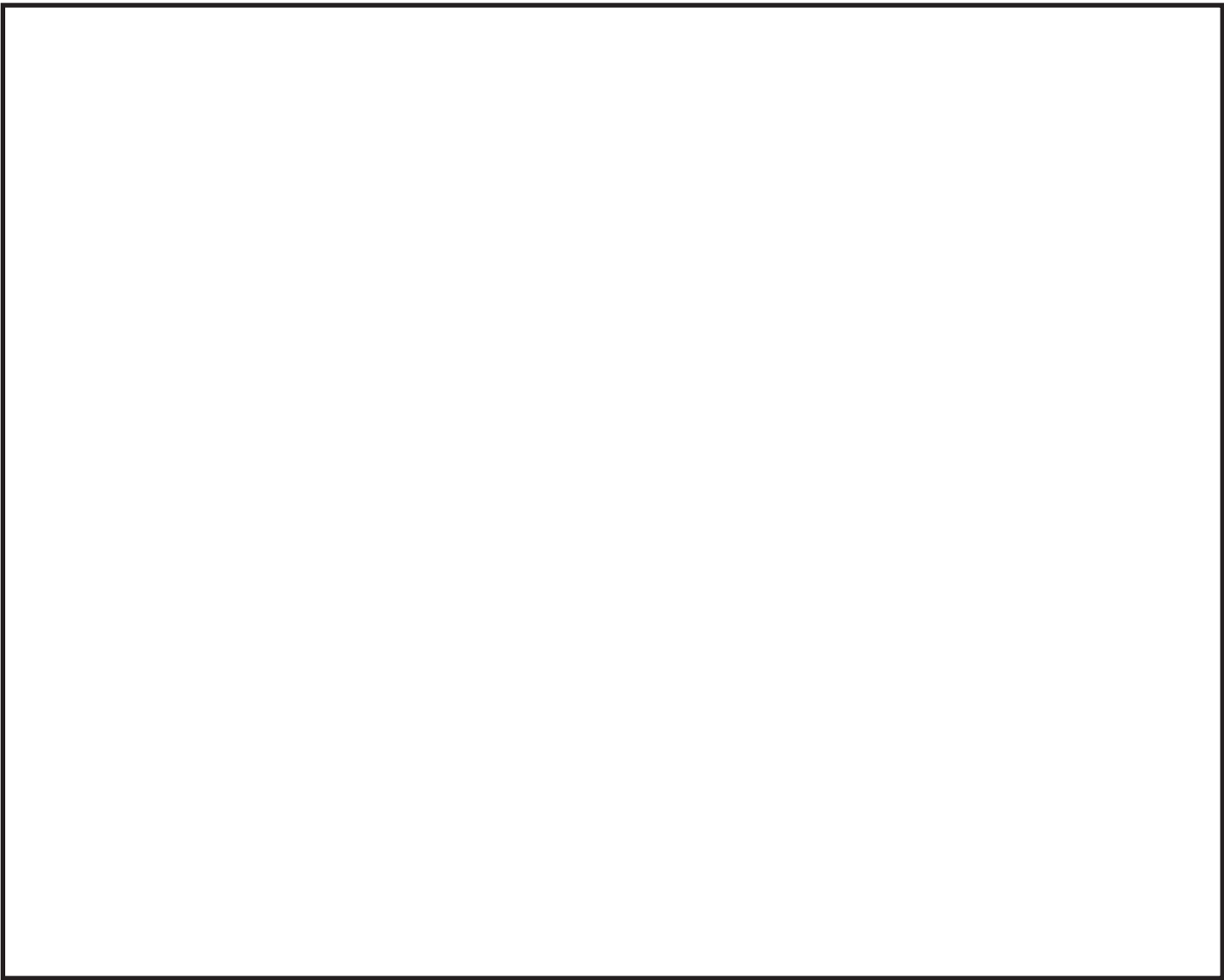
Ap

The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Honest on Saudi Arabia



Make our ports safer

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, Century Insurance Building, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letter to the Editor

Yap gets \$1.6 million for storm repairs

HAGATNA, Guam (Pacific Daily News/PIR)—Yap state of the Federated States of Micronesia has received \$1.6 million from the U.S. government to strengthen their power distribution system.

In April, Typhoon Sudal skirted south of Guam to hit Yap, knocking out water, power and communications systems, and strong winds brought waves over villages.

More recently, another typhoon gave the state a scare, passing north of the main island and causing minor wind damage.

Yap’s Public Service Corporation will install wooden power poles between existing power poles through-

out the island. With these additions, the space between poles will be cut in half from 300 feet to 150 feet, strengthening the system.

Yap also will stabilize every tenth pole with a “storm guy” anchor system designed to prevent high wind damage.

The project is estimated to cost a total of \$1.8 million.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency will bear 90 percent of the cost for the upgrade.

The FSM government is paying about 10 percent of the project, a decrease in cost to the small government, a FEMA release stated.

MRC

From Page 1

was earlier agreed upon.

The bill approves the settlement between the government and MRC and Anthony Pellegrino. It also allocates \$800,000 as initial payment to MRC.

In effect, Ernest said the legislative action does not mean actual appropriation of payment to MRC. He said the passage only meant the Legislature is open to approving a settlement.

“It [settlement bill] is void. The Legislature has shown its willingness to approve a settlement but it has not shown its willingness to appropriate [an award],” Ernest said.

He noted that under the terms and conditions of the agreement, the settle-

ment needed to secure legislative approval within four months. The agreement was signed on Feb. 11, 2003.

“If it’s not done in four months, it’s done,” he said.

Right now, he said, the parties—government and MRC—have the option to ask the arbitration panel to withhold any decision pending a possible negotiation for a new settlement accord.

Arbitration on the case resumed on Nov. 30 and reportedly ended on Dec. 1.

“I think they’re just waiting for the decision now,” he said.

The Senate passed the bill Friday, authorizing the governor to reprogram or allocate \$800,000 from his discretionary funds, “including the Lt. Governor’s discretionary funds,”

capital improvement funding or Compact Impact funds as initial payment to MRC.

Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente recently called on the Legislature to immediately pass the settlement bill to save the government from huge financial liabilities that would arise should MRC revive its claim against the government.

He said the government faces some \$6 million in claims from MRC.

The 2003 agreement calls for the total of \$3 million payment to MRC: \$800,000 as initial payment and \$2.2 million in deferred monthly installments over 20 years.

The \$2.2 million can be paid through the operating revenues of Outer Cove Marina or through tax credits.

MPLA

From Page 1

School, in the amount of \$3,682. The Commonwealth government obtained title to the land as a result of the condemnation.

The suit impleaded MPLA board chair Ana Demapan-Castro and members Nicolas Nekai, Felix Sasamoto, Manny Villagomez, and Benita Atalig-Manglona, as well as MPLA acting commissioner Edward DeLeon Guerrero, the Commonwealth Development Authority, and Jesus Tudela, the administrator of the Malite estate.

Sachs said the AGO had to file the lawsuit after the MPLA recently announced that some \$3.45 million would be disbursed to the Malite estate on Dec. 6—yesterday—despite the AGO’s objections. The CDA reportedly agreed to the release of the land claim. Sachs asked the court for a temporary restraining order to prevent the consummation of the release of funds, but Superior Court judge Juan T. Lizama has yet to rule on the request after a hearing yesterday.

Sachs is questioning the amount of \$3.45 million, approximately 1,000 times larger than the compensation determined in the 1978 Trust Terri-

tory court order, a final judgment in which no appeal was taken.

“Because the judgment entered in 1978 is presumed to have been satisfied and is barred by the statute of limitations, this disbursement serves no public purpose and instead is purely gratuitous,” Sachs said.

Even if the Trust Territory court judgment may not have been actually satisfied, the amount of \$3.45 million does not conform to valuation provisions of the law, with Sachs saying that valuation of condemned land should be determined at the time of the taking of the property by the Commonwealth government.

He said the lawyer of the estate’s administrator, Antonio Atalig, presented an appraisal report, which used Aug. 30, 1991 as the time of the taking. The appraisal pegged the value of the concerned property at \$500 per square meter.

The appraisal report was met with questions during the MPLA board meeting on June 30, 2004, according to Sachs, saying that MPLA’s appraisal reviewer indicated problems with the report. He said the appraisal reviewer, Mitch Aaron, questioned why 1991 was used as the time of taking.

“MPLA legal counsel Alan Lane

addressed the board on Aug. 13, 2004, and made a recommendation that the MPLA staff be allowed to continue to investigate the matter, and secure a new appraisal. He also suggested the possibilities of the Office of the Attorney General bringing a new condemnation case, paying interest of the TT High Court’s judgment at the rate of 9 percent per annum since 1978, etc.,” Sachs said.

“However, defendant Demapan-Castro insisted that there was no time left to investigate further, the Malite heirs were ready to go to court, and the MPLA board should decide immediately,” he said. “Consequently, the MPLA board rushed to a decision on the matter—ultimately voting in favor of paying \$3.45 million for the land compensation claim.”

The assistant attorney general said the MPLA board made an independent determination that the Malite estate still has a land compensation claim despite the CNMI government’s title to the land since 1978. Pursuant to the board decision, MPLA’s acting commissioner proceeded to make a requisition for the land compensation claim, asking the CDA to release the money.

The CDA had held off releasing the funds upon objection by the AGO. On

Nov. 29, Sachs disclosed that a meeting was held at the Governor’s Office to resolve the dispute. During that meeting, the MPLA announced that the claim would be released to the estate’s administrator on Dec. 6.

‘Conflicts of interest’

Sachs said there are conflicts of interest between the Maliti heirs’ lawyers and some MPLA board members, which taint the transaction.

Besides Antonio Atalig, who acts as lawyer for the estate’s administrator, Pedro Atalig, a former member of the MPLA board, is lawyer for some or all of the Malite heirs, according to Sachs.

According to Sachs, MPLA legal counsel Raymond Quichocho shares an office with Pedro Atalig, whose office manager, Juan Demapan, is brother of the MPLA chair. He also said the Atalig lawyers are brothers to MPLA board member Atalig-Manglona, who voted in favor of the release of the compensation.

“Defendant Atalig-Manglona voted...and must have known that her brother, Antonio Atalig, would derive a substantial contingency fee as the result of the drawdown and disbursement of \$3.45 million for the land compensa-

tion claim he asserted on behalf of the estate of Angel Malite,” the assistant attorney general said.

Sachs also questioned the requisition signed by the acting commissioner, DeLeon Guerrero, amid challenges to his legitimacy as MPLA commissioner. The Land Compensation Act of 2002 requires the MPLA commissioner to sign all requisitions for land compensation payments.

He noted that Henry Hofschneider, who was earlier terminated by the MPLA chair from the post of commissioner, claims that he remains commissioner. He also questioned the termination of Hofschneider by Demapan-Castro, saying that the action was done without a proper board meeting.

“Defendants’ threat to draw down and disburse \$3.45 million from the Land Compensation Fund for a spurious land compensation claim is beyond defendants’ powers and authority, and a breach of their fiduciary duties to the plaintiff [CNMI government], thereby warranting the issuance of a writ of mandamus or prohibition,” Sachs said.

A court issues a writ of mandamus to an official to compel performance of fiduciary duty, while prohibition prevents a tribunal from exercising jurisdiction. Sachs did not file an admin-

16 NURSES

From Page 1

Of the 16, 13 are nonresident nurses while the other three are from the United States.

Acting Nursing director Pasquana Calvo said candidates are currently in the pipeline for the soon-to-be-vacant positions.

“Its not like they’re going to be vacant until next year,” she said. “We have somebody in line being processed already for those vacant positions. It’s not like we’re going to go into a critical mess if we lose these nurses.”

Calvo said three individuals from the U.S. mainland are already confirmed to arrive soon to serve in the Emergency Room unit, while other units are currently actively recruiting as well.

“Every year we’re going to lose somebody,” she said. “Its not like they’re going to stay forever. They come here with their own plans, save money and some go elsewhere... whether it be in the U.S. or Europe.”

As reported earlier, some directly hired nurses have decided not to renew their contracts with the CHC because they are looking for opportunities elsewhere. Several have found job opportunities mostly in the United States. Others, however, have yet to take the National Council Licensure Examination, or NCLEX, according to human resource manager Marciana Igitol. Nurses are obliged to take the NCLEX within two to three years of employment with CHC.

Some were also recruited by other health agencies around the globe.

Igitol confirmed that the recruitment

of nurses for the positions is currently active.

“[Since expressing their intention not to be renewed], resumes are being reviewed, applicants are being interviewed. HR starts reviewing applications and doing reference checks and verifying,” she said.

Calvo said that, although still short, the current number of nurses on island—about 204—is “still okay.”

“Right now we’re okay... we’re not 100 percent [staffed], and we are short in some units,” she said. “Like myself in my unit, I lost nurses but I’m able to staff my unit while waiting for new nurses to come on board. We’re sharing resources, using staff from [other units] to come and work during the daytime so other nurses can move to night shifts and weekends.”

DPH secretary James U. Hofsch-

neider said that the department would continue to recruit nurses and doctors for sufficient service for the public, while at the same time urging residents to consider the profession.

“We’re going to continue to recruit to make sure we have the number of nurses that is adequate to provide patient care safety. I encourage our local people to please consider nursing as a profession because if they get into nursing school, get a degree and get their license...they will have a job.”

There are currently 150 full-time employment positions occupied by foreign nurses.

The DPH decided last year to accelerate its direct hiring process following its decision to terminate the services of staffing agencies.

The government believes that direct hiring would result in, among others,

improved quality in the delivery of service. The government also believes that direct hiring would prevent frequent turnover of nurses since they get higher pay when directly hired.

“As we were recruiting last year, they [nurses] did express that they were happier being directly hired, because for example [they have] the benefit of housing allowance and salary increase...it offers more,” Santos said.

Just recently, Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente said the Babauta administration is looking at offering more incentives to nurses, including a possible pay increase, in efforts to encourage them to remain in the CNMI.

“We try to give incentives such as increasing the salaries of nurses. The governor and I feel very strongly about increasing the nurses’ salary,” said Benavente said.

Business

CUC NOTICE

Asia

World

tribune graduation ad

Overdrive

joeten motors
+2 color

Life & Style

Gifts for family

By CAMILLA A. HERRERA
THE STAMFORD ADVOCATE

Imagine the scene: Presents litter the den. Torn wrapping paper and ribbons everywhere. No matter the age, family members survey the loot, gleefully overwhelmed by the visual feast before them. Any guilt over material excess is dismissed by the dilemma to choose what to read, what to build and what to play with first.

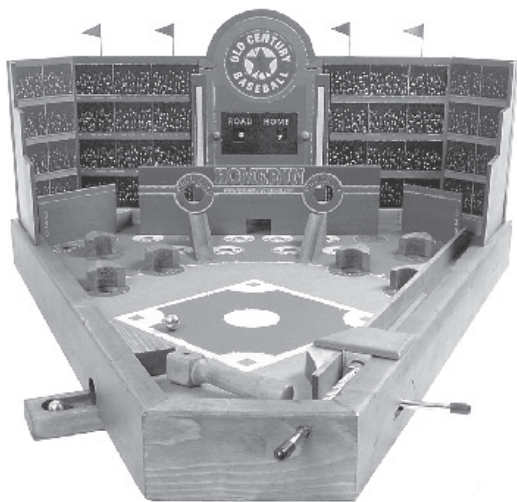
Now imagine the possibilities for family fun if this year's toys and games could be enjoyed together. Here are a few suggestions that just may introduce a year-round tradition of game night.



BlongoBall.
THE STAMFORD
ADVOCATE

Give it a twirl

BlongoBall, a new twist on outdoor gaming. As singles or teams, you score or take points from an opponent by landing BlongoBalls on BlonGoals. Much like horseshoes, the first to reach 21 points, wins. Easy to play, easy to carry. Case includes two BlonGoals and two sets (yellow and orange) of three BlongoBalls. \$49.95. \$8.95 for additional BlongoBall sets. (888) 256.6462 or www.blongoball.com.



Old Century Baseball.

Play ball!

Players young and old can gather around Old Century Baseball, a coffee-table game that pays tribute to the grand old ballparks of years past. Launch the pinball and swing the bat to hit singles, doubles, triples and home runs. Record each batter's performance on actual scorecards while turning movable scoreboard knobs to keep track of the game. \$119.99. (800) 526-0314 or www.frontporchclassics.com.



THE STAMFORD ADVOCATE
Mandala Sand Art and Fun with Rock Painting.

In living color

With Mandala Sand Art, families can learn the timeless colored sand art form. Kits includes a full-color booklet with information on the history and uses of the mandala, the mandala coloring book, white glue, sand art boards, sand pens, circle stencils, glitter, sticker sheets with precut designs, two-sided colored pencils and a drawing pencil. \$14.95. (800) 426-0099 or www.walterfoster.com.

Let's rock

Get ready to rock your world with the Fun with Rock Painting kit. Materials include a full-color instruction booklet with CD, paintbrushes, chenille stems, a glue stick, felt, feathers, glow-in-the-dark paint, beads, googly eyes, craft wire, acrylic paints and a paint-mixing palette. \$14.95. (800) 426-0099 or www.walterfoster.com.

Nuts about Peanuts

The ultimate strategy game with a Peanuts twist. The Chess set features 32 beautiful hand-sculpted, hand-painted playing pieces showcasing the most beloved characters, including Charlie Brown with his baseball gear as King, Sally clutching a valentine, Woodstock in his birdbath, Lucy dropping another baseball, Linus with his beloved blanket and Snoopy as "Joe Cool." Game comes in a collectible tin. \$35.95. www.usaopolpy.com.

Lost in space

In Cogno: Alien Adventure Game, players choose one of eight alien characters that include carnivores and herbivores, each with different skills for survival in mystery planets. Chances to win fuel cells and high-tech gear abound but watch for the black hole, the time tunnel and the space elevator. Chaos Cards filled with science questions round out the space fantasy game. \$29.95. www.cogno.com.

Math war

Mythmatical Battles is a dueling card game that blends Greek, Celtic, Norse or Egyptian mythology with multiplication. Gods, heroes and monsters, each with an attack strength and a defense strength, use multiplication equations to challenge the opponent, win special cards and change strengths. Game ends when a player's deck is exhausted. \$15.99. www.mythmaticalbattles.com.

A room with a view

Add color to glass surfaces with Window Art. Just trace a design with Black Outline and squirt the Window Colors to fill in the outline. Peel up the design and stick it on a shower door, mirror or window. Change your mind? Peel and stick

it somewhere else. Kit includes an instruction kit with more than 100 ready-to-trace designs. \$19.95. www.klutz.com.



THE STAMFORD ADVOCATE
Apples to Apples Junior 9+, Blink, and Peanuts chess set.

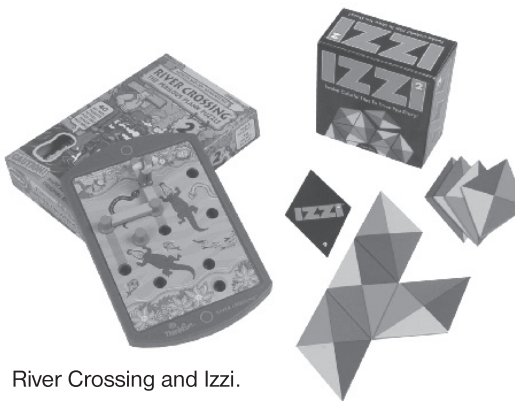
Hear the laughter

Apples to Apples Junior 9+, a new version of the popular card and party game now for the entire family. It is as easy as comparing apples to apples. Just select the card from your hand that you think is most like the card played by the judge. If the judge picks your card, you win that round. And, everyone gets a chance to be the judge. Note for parents: expands vocabulary and thinking skills. \$16.95. www.otbgames.com.

Blink is the fast game where two players race to be the first to play all of their cards. Using sharp eyes and fast hands, try to match the shape, count, or color on the cards. Be the first player out of cards and win. \$9.99. www.otbgames.com.

Watch your step

Can the Hiker cross the river without getting up close and personal with 'gators, snakes and piranha? Getting all the way across in River Crossing won't be so easy! Move the planks among the tree stumps to help the hero cross. \$14.99. www.thinkfun.com.



River Crossing and Izzi.
THE STAMFORD ADVOCATE

Riddle me this

Challenging and beautiful, Izzi and Izzi 2 are never the same puzzles twice. In Izzi, match 64 black and white tiles side-to-side to build a square. In Izzi 2, take 12 colorful, diamond-shaped puzzle pieces and add 39 pattern-matching games. \$6.00 each. www.thinkfun.com.

A stitch in time

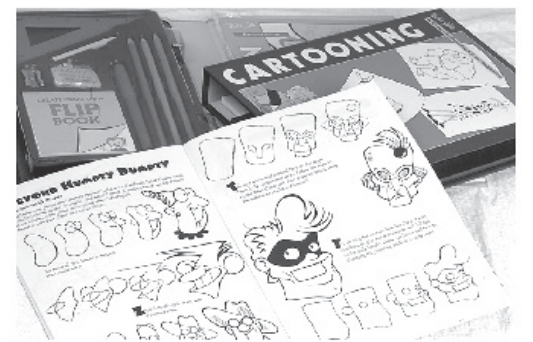
The past is back. Learn how to knit a long skinny scarf; a cozy hat; a sunglasses case; a cell phone sock; and more with this easy Knitting kit. The book comes complete with yarn, knitting needles, a crochet hook, two buttons and a sewing needle. \$24.95. www.klutz.com.

Some like it hot

No need to start a fire. Now you can quickly roast marshmallows with chocolate and graham cracker in the new Hershey's S'mores Maker. Just plug it in and use the two enclosed campfire sticks. \$25. www.spinmaster.com.

Movie magic

Classic characters and songs from Disney and Disney/Pixar movies are now in Scene It? Disney, the latest version of the DVD game. Pop the game disc into your DVD player, enjoy real movie clips and answer trivia questions to race around the game board. Requires a DVD player. \$29.98. www.sceneit.com.



Complete
Drawing
Kit for
Beginners:
Cartooning,
and Knitting.

THE STAMFORD
ADVOCATE

Looney cartoons

Try to create an animated flip book, storyboard and spinning zoetrope with the Complete Drawing Kit for Beginners: Animation. Zany cartoon characters can come to life with the Complete Drawing Kit for Beginners: Cartooning. Each set includes a 32-page project book, drawing pencils, drop-out pencils, a cartooning pen, a triangle, a sharpener, a blending stump, a kneaded eraser and a drawing pad. \$14.95 each. (800) 426-0099 or www.walterfoster.com.

CSI for kids

Gather and examine the evidence, prepare a lab for a forensic review, match the clues, name the suspect and solve the cases with the Smithsonian Crime Lab Investigation science kit. Set includes a 300X microscope, plastic slides and covers, graduated cylinder, tweezers, gloves, measuring tape, safety goggles, magnifying lens, collection envelopes, test tubes, synthetic blood, synthetic Anti-A and Anti-B serums, analysis tray, ink bottle, chromatography paper, black and white fingerprint powder, ink pad, sponge, paintbrush, case solution cards and a guide to forensic science. \$49.95. www.discoverthis.com.

Ringling museum to be home to mini circus

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP)—The “Greatest Show on Earth” in Howard Tibbals’ world is also the smallest, with its diminutive circus acts, tiny spectators and a “big” top that measures just about 4-feet tall.

It is a magical world more than 50 years in the making, its seeds planted in Tibbals’ imagination as a child when he watched the circus roll into town. He has since handcrafted nearly 1 million pieces to make up his miniature circus, which will soon have a permanent home at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in a \$9 million building.

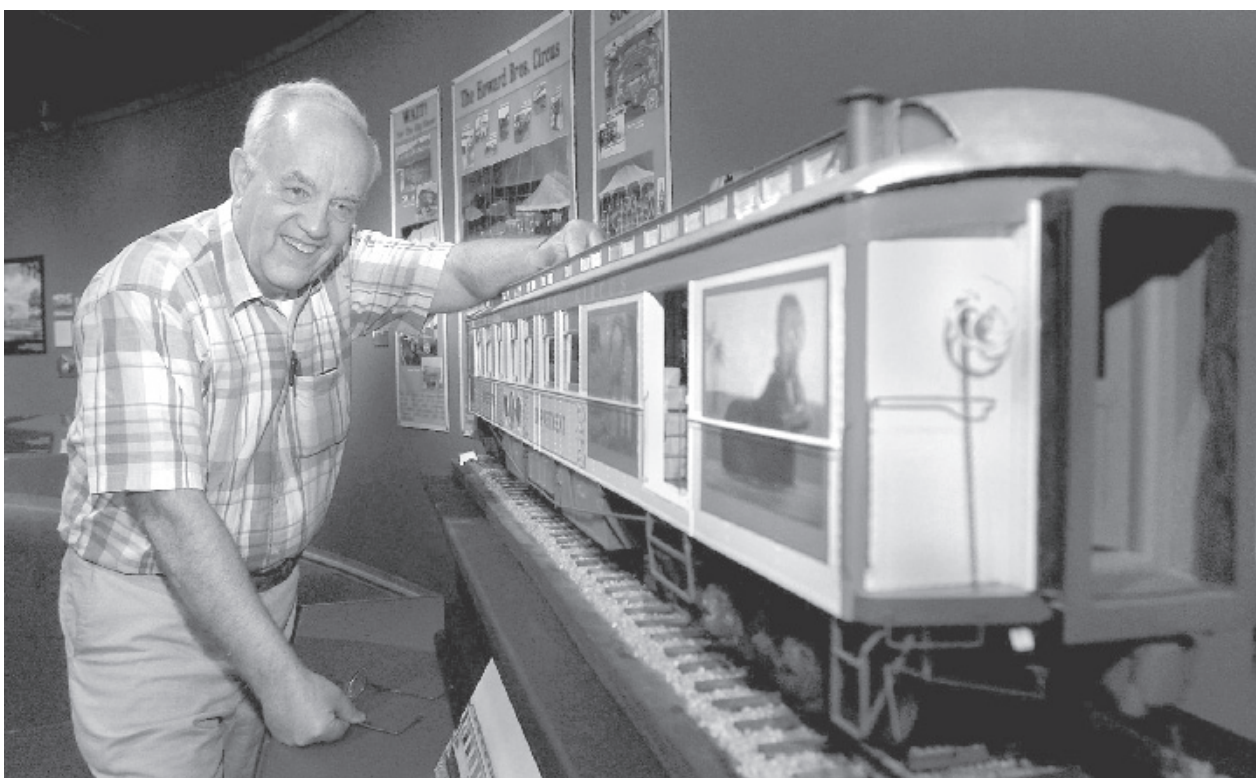
The Tibbals Learning Center—partly built with a \$6.5 million donation from Tibbals, the retired head of a successful flooring company—is scheduled to be completed in January 2006.

Visitors will be able to see Tibbals’ 1/16th-scale miniature circus fully assembled in an area that’s large enough to park 11 school buses. Dubbed the “Howard Brothers Circus,” it will depict a circus coming to town on rail cars, complete with its sideshows, a parade of exotic animals and a big top with 7,000 intricately carved folding chairs.

Tibbals, 68, began the painstaking installation in November.

“It’s going to take me an entire year to do what they did with 1,200 employees in just hours,” he said during a recent interview in the new 30,000-square-foot center. “How in the world did they move that stuff every day? An awful lot of muscle, both human and animal.”

The creation of Tibbals’ circus is the tale of a man fascinated and charmed by circuses and devoted to recreating a bygone era. Since he was a young man,



The “Greatest Show on Earth” in Howard Tibbals world is also the smallest, with its diminutive circus acts, its tiny spectators and a “big” top that will measure slightly more than four-feet tall.

Tibbals has spent two or three hours a day working with wood, plastic and cloth to construct the tiny elements that make up the traveling big top.

The circus has been on display a few times before, including at the World’s Fair in Knoxville in 1982 and at the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C. But for most of its existence, it has been in storage at Tibbals’ home in Oneida, Tenn.

Tibbals had been searching for a permanent home for his circus when he made the \$6.5 million donation in 2000 for the construction of the facility. Additional financing is coming from the

Ringling endowment and the state.

The center will also become home to the massive collection of circus documents, photographs and posters Tibbals amassed in his effort to accurately recreate every detail of the circuses of the early 20th century.

The display is designed to replicate the shows that toured from 1919 to 1938, although Tibbals said he did depart to include replicas of some costumes from the 1952 movie extravaganza “The Greatest Show on Earth.”

“It’s the story of American culture,” John Wetenhall, executive director of the Ringling Museum, said.

“It was your television, your radio, your opera, your zoo. And all of it came to your town.”

Wetenhall said the opening of the Tibbals center will help restore the once-ailing museum complex. The museum is now operated under the auspices of Florida State University, which took over the Ringling mansion, the art museum and the circus museum four years ago. John Ringling was one of five brothers who created the famous circus in the 1880s.

The Tibbals center will be one of the highlights of a \$76 million renovation of the Ringling complex, to be com-

pleted by 2007. A new home for the 18th-century Venetian Asolo Theater and new art galleries are planned. The Ringling’s winter mansion, Ca d’Zan, was renovated in 2002. The 66-acre estate on Sarasota Bay was Ringling’s winter home in 1926.

The Ringling museum in the past had been so focused on its collection of Reubens paintings and other fine art that it had not fully developed its circus museum to reflect the important historical and cultural role the shows played, Wetenhall said.

Tibbals was just 3 and too young to remember the first circus his parents took him to in 1939 in Pittsburgh. But he does remember every detail of the show he saw in 1941, even that he sat on a bale of hay.

After that, he would pretend all his toys were part of the circus parade. As a child, his best days were spent watching the circus come to town. It wasn’t so much the circus acts that captured his imagination, but the amazing ability to quickly transport the huge shows with their hundreds of performers, animals and workers.

“I never watched the acts,” he said. “I watched them move things.”

The family eventually moved to Tennessee. By the 1950s, Tibbals had begun crafting the miniatures in the evenings, much to the dismay of his six children who also loved the circus but hated how much time their father spent on his miniatures.

A winter resident of neighboring Long Boat Key, Tibbals continues to build the miniatures and the center will include a workshop where visitors will be able to see him create new pieces.

“If you go through all the effort to make it, someone ought to see it.”

Habitat for Humanity founder pushed aside

By ALLEN G. BREED
AP WRITER

AMERICUS, Ga. (AP)—In a characteristic act of frugality, Habitat for Humanity founder Millard Fuller hitched a ride to the Atlanta airport with a female staff member to save the organization a \$75 shuttle ride. That ride ended up costing him—and Habitat—a great deal more.

Allegations of “inappropriate conduct” during that drive last year led to Fuller’s temporary banishment from the headquarters of the Christian home-building organization he and his wife, Linda, founded 28 years ago. Fuller says the board of directors was on the verge of firing him before he asked former President Jimmy Carter, Habitat’s most visible volunteer, to intervene.

While the board eventually found there was “insufficient evidence” to substantiate the charges, Fuller says he agreed to step aside as chief executive officer to avoid an “unseemly” internal battle. In a compromise, he retained the largely ceremonial title of “founder and president.”

With his 70th birthday approaching in January, Fuller knew the time was coming when he would have to make way for new leadership.

But Linda Fuller worries that the attempt to oust her husband is a symptom of a “culture change” in Habitat

from a hopeful religious mission to a bottom-line bureaucracy.

On a recent fall morning in Americus, Millard Fuller, strolls down Church Street dressed in his trademark plaid shirt. The trip takes ages, because every few feet, he stoops to pick up litter.

“I can’t stand trash,” he says, bending his 6-foot-4 body to scoop up a crushed soda can.

“I’ll tell you a little secret. There’s a connection between trash and poverty housing. ... Poverty housing is just an extension of a mentality that will allow trash on a street.”

Picking up trash is just an extension of Fuller’s brand of “practical Christianity”—teaching by example.

The son of a widower farmer in the cotton-mill town of Lanett, Ala., Fuller earned his first profit at age 6 by selling a pig he’d raised. While studying law at the University of Alabama, he married Linda and formed a direct-marketing company with a classmate that made them millionaires before they were 30.

But when Fuller’s capitalist drive threatened to kill their marriage, the couple decided to sell everything and devote themselves to the Christian values they grew up with.

Their search for a mission led them to Koinonia, an interracial agricultural collective outside the southwest

Georgia cotton and peanut center of Americus. It was there that the Fullers and others developed the concept of no-interest housing—and of having the poor invest “sweat equity” into building their own homes—that would eventually become Habitat for Humanity International.

Since 1976, Habitat has blossomed into a worldwide network of 3,300 affiliates that have built 175,000 houses in 100 countries. Preaching the “theology of the hammer,” Fuller has built an army of tens of thousands of volunteers that includes former U.S. presidents, Hollywood celebrities and Fortune 500 CEOs.

Along the way, the founder has clashed with his board over the pace of the mission’s worldwide growth and his decision to build a “global village” attraction in Americus with a mock Third World slum and examples of Habitat houses.

Such conflicts usually ended with Fuller getting his way and remaining firmly in control.

Not this time.

Earlier this year, the Fullers were traveling in Hong Kong when he got a call from board Chairman Rey Ramsey. He told Fuller that a 15-year Habitat employee had accused him of inappropriate behavior during a drive to the Atlanta airport 13 months earlier.

Habitat would not divulge details of the allegations, but Fuller told The Associated Press recently that Victoria Cross accused him of touching her on the neck, shoulder and thigh, and of telling her she had “smooth skin.”

Habitat hired a New York law firm to look into the allegations and ordered Fuller to stay away from the office until the investigation was completed.

This was not the first time Fuller had been accused of being too familiar with female staff.

In 1990, several women at the headquarters accused the founder of sexual harassment—a kiss on the cheek, a hug, a compliment about pretty blue eyes. Fuller was prepared to step down until Carter threatened to withdraw his support from Habitat.

Fuller says he grew up in a touchy-feely country culture and freely admits he did those things.

“There was a dispute on interpreting the facts,” he says of the earlier case. But this time, “there’s not even the TINIEST element of truth in it.”

Cross, the 35-year-old wife of a minister, has since left Habitat. Reached at her home in Harker Heights, Texas, she declined to comment, citing a legal agreement to remain silent.

Asked if Fuller’s characterization of the allegations was accurate, Ramsey would say only that it was “in the ballpark.”

Mrs. Fuller says the board was “that close to firing Millard” in April before Carter, the couple’s longtime friend, came in to mediate. Carter declined to comment on his role.

The Fullers signed an agreement to exchange their silence on the matter for their salaries for life. But Mrs. Fuller found the terms unbearable.

“I was very close friends with a lot of the people who worked at Habitat, and it was just tearing me up to be near them and not being able to talk to them or say anything about it,” she says, her blue eyes misting with tears.

In August, Habitat announced that a search committee was being formed to look for a successor to Fuller. In early October, the Fullers backed out of their silence agreement and were preparing a mass mailing to affiliates about the situation when Ramsey asked for a meeting.

After the three-hour talk, which Ramsey described as powerful and prayerful, he released a statement saying: “Millard decided to relinquish the position of CEO and the board is accepting his decision.”

Although Fuller says there was “some element of trust” in his decision to step aside, he concedes the change “could be actually a good thing.”

Linda Fuller, who doesn’t believe Cross’ allegations, is less conciliatory. “They had an agenda,” she says.

WWII film tells of Japanese in Hawaii

HONOLULU (AP)—More than 120,000 Japanese-Americans were ordered into internment camps during World War II, but despite their large numbers, few in the territory of Hawaii were forced to leave their homes.

Filmmaker Tom Coffman is working on a documentary that explains why, and explores how communities working together on behalf of local Japanese-Americans influenced both Hawaii's and the nation's history.

"I believe this laid the basis for statehood," said Coffman, an author and former political reporter.

An interracial group started meeting in Hawaii in 1939 in anticipation of war, fearing the effect on the U.S. territory would be devastating, Coffman said.

"Their premise was that how well we get along during the war will determine how well we get along after," he said. "The greatest sense of urgency came from the Japanese community. But overlooked are the Caucasian community, business community, Chinese community."

The group, including Shigeo Yoshida, an educator whose unarchived and uncategorized files Coffman found at the University of Hawaii, began working as the Council for Interracial Unity. Coffman said the council combined "pragmatism and idealism."

"The group struck on the idea of involving military intelligence and the FBI," Coffman said, noting that intelligence agencies had been keeping watch on the Hawaii populace.

The group made contact with Robert Shivers, the head of the Honolulu FBI office who was charged with determining whether the estimated one-third Japanese population would be loyal to the United States. The group enlisted Shivers in their cause and surrounded him with advisers that were Nisei—second-generation Americans of Japanese ancestry.

When young Nisei went to the police department and volunteered their service in event of war, they were assigned to Lt. John A. Burns, who began organizing a communication and morale-boosting network.

Burns, a Democrat who went on to be elected governor in 1962, three years after statehood, was assigned to assist the FBI with interrogations.

Burns wrote in a Honolulu Star-Bulletin column that Japanese-Americans in Hawaii were loyal to the United States and it was in America's interest to cultivate that loyalty.

"It was a gutsy move; it put him personally at risk," Coffman said.

Deputies get Michael Jackson DNA sample

By **LINDA DEUTSCH**
AP SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Jackson voluntarily gave a DNA sample to authorities, returning to his Neverland Ranch estate a day after he left during a search by sheriff's deputies, a source close to the case said Sunday.

When Santa Barbara County sheriff's deputies arrived with search warrants Friday, his lawyer instructed him to leave and take his children with him, the source told The Associated Press.

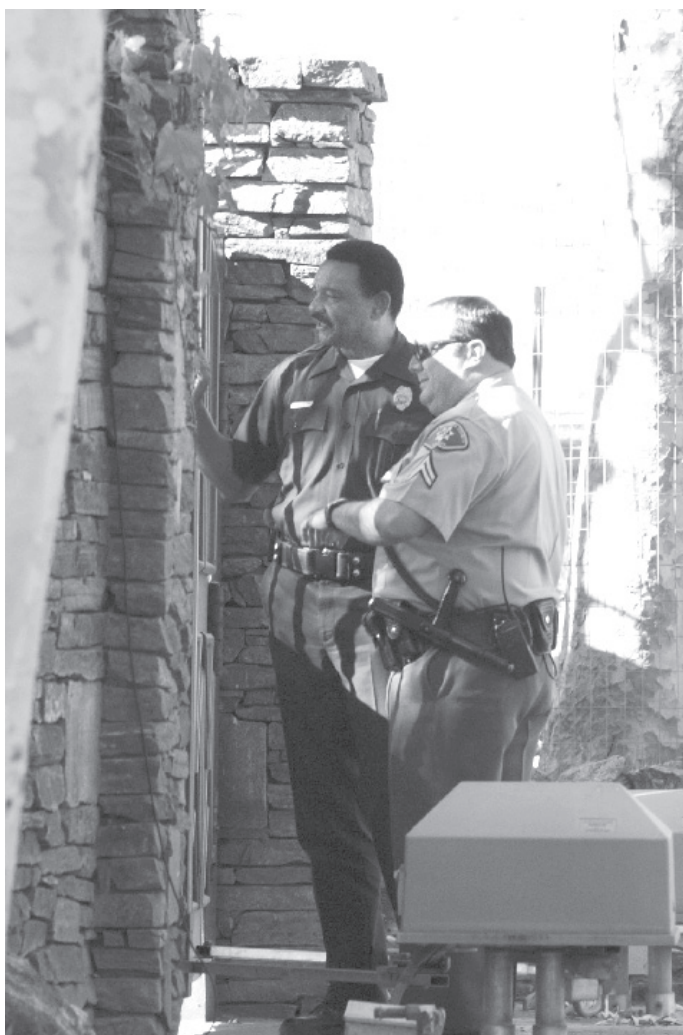
Jackson's attorney, Thomas Mesereau, flew by helicopter from Los Angeles to Jackson's ranch in Los Olivos, 100 miles northwest, when he heard the search warrant had been served, said the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

On Saturday, when the deputies returned, they asked for a DNA sample and Jackson returned by car to the estate and supplied the sample voluntarily, the source said.

Authorities had never before asked for a DNA sample, the source said. A cotton swab was used to collect the sample from Jackson's mouth.

It wasn't immediately clear how authorities planned to use the DNA in Jackson's child molestation case.

Also while at Jackson's ranch, sheriff's investigators measured rooms, trying to establish the



AP
A Santa Barbara County sheriff deputy and a member of the Neverland Fire Department stand guard behind the main gate at Michael Jackson's Neverland Ranch in Los Olivos, Calif., Friday, Dec. 3, 2004, following the serving of a search warrant in the morning.

sight lines from one room to another, the source said.

The 46-year-old entertainer

has pleaded not guilty to charges of child molestation, conspiracy and administering an intoxicat-

'Treasure' retains box-office booty

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Founding Fathers keep earning interest on their loot. Nicolas Cage's "National Treasure," about a race to find a fortune hidden by the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was the top movie for a third straight weekend with \$17.1 million in ticket sales, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The action flick lifted its total to \$110.2 million after 17 days in release, dominating a quiet post-Thanksgiving weekend with no new movies debuting in wide release.

Mike Nichols' caustic sex drama "Closer"—starring Julia Roberts, Jude Law, Natalie Portman and Clive Owen—opened strongly in narrower release, taking in \$7.7 million. Playing in 476 theaters, "Closer" had a healthy average of \$16,176 a cinema, compared to a \$5,286 average in 3,243 theaters for "National Treasure."

The martial-arts epic "House of Flying Daggers," a strong contender for the foreign-language Academy Award, pre-

miered well in limited release. Directed by Zhang Yimou ("Hero"), the film grossed \$417,020 in 15 theaters for a \$27,801 average.

The overall box office declined after three straight weekends of rising revenue. The top 12 movies grossed \$80.3 million, down 10 percent from the same weekend last year.

The movie's box-office reign will end next weekend with the debut of the star-studded heist sequel "Ocean's Twelve," whose cast includes George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Roberts.

Distributor Sony is rolling "Closer" out slowly to build buzz through Hollywood's upcoming awards season. "Closer" placed third behind "Finding Neverland" and "The Aviator" on the National Board of Review's list released last week of best 2004 films, and the group honored the movie's cast for best ensemble performance.

"It is a very adult film, and it does seem that a slower rollout is the appropriate thing to do with it," said Rory Bruer, Sony head of distribution.

Oliver Stone's historical epic "Alexander," which opened to poor reviews, grossed \$4.7 million, down 65 percent from its debut the previous weekend. "Alexander," which reportedly cost \$150 million to make, took in just \$29.7 million in its first 12 days.

ing agent, alcohol, to his alleged victim. He is scheduled to stand trial Jan. 31.

Loyola University law professor Laurie Levenson, a former federal prosecutor, said she was surprised District Attorney Tom Sneddon had not requested DNA earlier.

"We don't know whether this means they are scrambling or tying up loose ends, or it's just Sneddon going over the top," she said.

From a public relations standpoint, however, the prosecution has scored a coup with the highly publicized searches, she said.

"They've certainly gotten a lot of attention and, even if there's a gag order, they got

the message out: 'We've got DNA,'" Levenson said.

Authorities spent more than eight hours at the estate Friday, and less than two hours Saturday.

Santa Barbara County sheriff's officials have refused to discuss the visits except to issue a statement saying they are "part of an ongoing criminal investigation."

Jackson's estate was first searched in November 2003, shortly before he was charged.

Monday is the deadline for prosecutors and defense lawyers to complete the case's discovery process, in which both sides exchange evidence they have gathered during pretrial investigations.

WALLACE

Multiplying tip jars get divided reaction

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: When I read the letter from "All Tipped Out," commenting on the increasing number of "tip jars" she encounters in business establishments, I had to write and say I couldn't agree more.

I first noticed the phenomenon about 15 years ago, at a wine-and-cheese fund-raiser for an organization to which I belonged. I was flabbergasted to see that the people pouring the wine had a tip jar on the bar. I assumed that we had hired these people as part of the contract, and certainly never expected to see them blatantly soliciting tips. However, I couldn't convince the event organizers to do anything about it.

Since then, I have seen tip jars on the open bars at weddings. Only once have I seen the father of the bride have the good sense and righteous indignation to order them removed immediately.

There is no reason to tolerate paid help hustling one's invited guests for tips. You wouldn't put up with this at a catered event at your home.

PAT C., HOCKESSIN, DEL.

DEAR PAT: Good point. Frankly, I too was surprised at how prevalent the practice has become. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Please tell "All Tipped Out" to hold onto her hat. There is a doctor's office in our town—a beautiful facility with lots of employees and patients—that does the same thing, although in a slightly less blatant way.

A friend of mine went to this office to have a procedure done. It was not performed by the doctor, but by a technician. When she went to pay at the reception desk, she was asked if she would like to "tip" the technician.

I have no problem tipping in establishments where I know the employees are not receiving minimum wage and depend on tips to supplement their incomes. However, I have no doubt that technician was earning more than minimum wage, and I don't think it was appropriate to ask a patient for a tip.

I will be more on my toes than my friend was. I will say, "Perhaps the doctor should give his technician a raise if she needs tips."

ALWAYS A NEW TWIST IN WYOMING

DEAR NEW TWIST: What you have described seems more like a demand than a request, and it's appalling.

DEAR ABBY: I work in a local bakery, and there is a tip jar; however, the employees who work the counter earn the same as everyone else, and it's more than minimum wage. Yet they expect tips and make rude comments when the customer leaves if they are not received. I find this embarrassing. I'd be less dismayed if the tips were divided by everyone, and the comments were kept in check.

E. CLAIRE IN CAMBRIDGE

DEAR E. CLAIRE: Your boss should be made aware of what's going on in the front of his shop. If word leaks out, it will affect the business.

DEAR ABBY: I work in a small restaurant where there's a tip jar on the counter. I don't "expect" tips because of it. What makes my day is when a customer is friendly, cheerful, and says "please" and "thank you." "All Tipped Out" needn't feel obligated to tip. Just being polite and friendly will make an employee's day far more than any tip could.

HAPPY SERVER IN CANADA

DEAR HAPPY SERVER: You're 100 percent right — but that's a subject for another column.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)



Dear Abby

Elton John, 5 other stars honored in D.C.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Music legend Elton John, opera diva Joan Sutherland and conductor John Williams—along with actors Warren Beatty, Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee—were honored Sunday with a star-studded tribute at The Kennedy Center.

The six recipients of the 27th annual Kennedy Center Honors were saluted for their lifetime contributions to American culture through the performing arts.

President and Mrs. Bush greeted the honorees at a reception at the White House Sunday afternoon. At the Kennedy Center, the honorees were seated in a balcony near the Bushes, Vice President Dick Cheney and his wife, Lynne, Secretary of State Colin Powell and the woman nominated to replace him, Condoleezza Rice. Hollywood stars in the audience included Jack Nicholson and Al Pacino.

John, 57, has sold more than 60 million albums in three decades with hits such as "Rocket Man" and "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road."

Winning the honor "is about the icing on the cake," John said Sunday as he walked into the



AP
Actor, producer, and writer Warren Beatty, center, gestures from the balcony as his wife, actress Annette Bening, left, and singer and composer Elton John, right, look on at the Kennedy Center in Washington Sunday, Dec. 5, 2004.

White House reception. "It's incredible for someone who's British to be given such an accolade from America, which has given me so much already in my career."

Australian-born soprano Suther-

land, 78, was saluted by fellow opera singers Sherrill Milnes and Marilyn Horne, a previous honoree. Milnes called Sutherland "an avalanche of sound. She's become the standard by which all others are measured."

Re-recorded Band Aid single No. 1 in U.K.

LONDON (AP)—It was No. 1 in 1984, and it's No. 1 again in 2004. The star-studded re-recording of the hit charity single "Do They Know It's Christmas?" hit the top of the British music charts Sunday after a strong first week of sales.

The single, featuring such artists as Coldplay's Chris Martin, Paul McCartney, U2's Bono and Dido, will raise money for victims of violence in

Sudan, where fighting has killed thousands of people and created 1.8 million refugees. The United Nations has called the situation there the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

Retailers are selling the song for \$7.70, while online distributors are charging \$2.90.

The original Band Aid single was released 20 years ago and was a smash success, raising millions of dollars for victims

of starvation in Ethiopia. It featured such artists as Bruce Springsteen, Sting, Boy George, Duran Duran and Phil Collins.

Bono is the only artist to appear on both versions of the song.

The new track—dubbed Band Aid 20—also features Robbie Williams, Jamelia, Ms. Dynamite, Will Young and members of the bands Busted, the Darkness and Sugababes.

Taiwan's Golden Horse goes to Chinese film

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—A sleeper hit about saving the Tibetan antelope from poachers became the first movie from China to win Taiwan's Golden Horse Award on Saturday—the Oscar for Chinese-language cinema.

"Hoh Xil: Mountain Patrol," also known as "Kekexili," was picked over two star-studded Hong Kong blockbusters—"Infernal Affairs III" and "2046"—in the 41st edition of the annual ceremony.

Although China has produced a steady stream of critically acclaimed films in recent years, few movies from the mainland have entered the Golden Horse competition.

This was mostly due to the long-standing political feud between Taiwan and China, split by a civil war in 1949. But in recent years, cultural exchanges have been increasing.

Lu Chuan, the director of "Hoh Xil," avoided politics in his acceptance speech. He thanked Hollywood studios Sony Columbia and Warner Brothers for investing in his movie about volunteers protecting Tibetan antelope from ruthless poachers in remote western China.



AP
World renowned Taiwanese director Ang Lee waves to photographers as he arrives for the 41st annual Golden Horse Awards in Taiwan's central city of Taichung, 150 kilometers (94 miles) south west of Taipei.

"I hope you can continue to trust me, because I will certainly make different movies," the 33-year-old director said.

Hong Kong's Andy Lau was honored as best actor for his role as a gangster in the thriller "Infernal Affairs III." A modest Lau told

the judges, "To make everybody believe I can act is a bit difficult, but in the future, my acting will not embarrass you."

The best actress award went to Taiwan's Yang Kuei-mei, who portrayed a divorcee trying to salvage her life in the "The Moon Also Rises."

As she grabbed her Golden Horse, Yang noted that she was nominated four times before but never won. "Can my speech be a little bit longer, because I have four years' experience," joked Yang, who starred in the 1994 romantic comedy "Eat, Drink, Man, Woman."

Yang also made a plea for supporting Taiwan's struggling film industry. "Beginning this year, you really must support Taiwanese movies, Taiwanese movies are Taiwan's culture. You cannot forget this," she said.

Hong Kong's Johnnie To won the best director award for his action movie "Breaking News," which explored the relationship between the media and the fight against crime.

Hong Kong heartthrob Daniel Wu won the best-supporting actor award for his role beside kung fu king Jackie Chan in the action movie "New Police Story."

Composer and conductor Williams, 72, has won five Academy Awards, 17 Grammys and two Emmys and is best known for his film scores for "Star Wars," "Jaws," "Raiders of the Lost Ark" and "E.T." Director Steven Spielberg called him "a national treasure, as American as apple pie and President Bush's mom," and noted, "John Williams' scores are guaranteed to make you use a whole box of Kleenex."

Husband-and-wife acting team Davis, 86, and Dee, 80, were feted for their long careers on stage and screen as well as their political activism. Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, who appeared in a recent Broadway revival of "A Raisin in the Sun," said he was inspired by Dee, who starred in the original production. "Ruby wanted me to understand how high the stakes were, that failure was not an option," Combs said.

Beatty, 67, is an actor, writer, producer and director. He has been nominated for Academy Awards 15 times, and won an Oscar in 1982 as best director for "Reds."

Donald Trump wants \$500M from investors

NEW LONDON, Conn. (AP)—Donald Trump got fired. Now he's asking for \$500 million. The real estate mogul and television star is offering to drop his breach of contract lawsuit against the Eastern Pequot tribe and the casino investors who replaced him in exchange for a half a billion dollars.

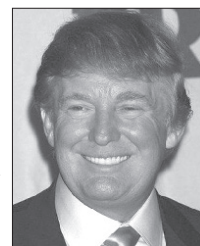
"The figure was arrived at very carefully by people in the Trump organization who determined what likely income would have been generated had the Trump organization gone forward with the Eastern Pequot casino," Trump's lawyer, Robert I. Reardon, told The Day of New London.

The Eastern Pequots' attorney, however, says the tribe is not interested.

"I think a more appropriate valuation is the one he (Trump) put in his bankruptcy filing, which is zero," Lawyer Robert D. Tobin said.

Trump invested more than \$10 million through one of his subsidiary companies in an effort to help a faction of the tribe open a casino.

Assets for the subsidiary are listed as zero in last month's Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing by Trump Hotels & Casino Resorts Inc., which mainly consists of three Atlantic City properties and a riverboat casino in Indiana.



Trump

Pastimes





TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS															
AMERICAN LEAGUE															
East Division															
	W	L	Pct.	GB											
New York	90	53	.629	-											
Boston	86	56	.606	31/2											
Baltimore	65	76	.461	24											
Tampa Bay	61	80	.433	28											
Toronto	59	84	.413	31											
Central Division															
Minnesota	82	60	.577	-											
Chicago	72	70	.507	10											
Cleveland	70	73	.490	121/2											
Detroit	64	77	.454	171/2											
Kansas City	51	91	.359	31											
West Division															
Oakland	83	59	.585	-											
Anaheim	81	61	.570	2											
Texas	78	64	.549	5											
Seattle	53	89	.373	30											
Yesterday's Games															
Minnesota 8, Detroit 5															
N.Y. Yankees 9, Baltimore 7															
Texas 7, Toronto 6															
Tampa Bay 7, Kansas City 2															
Seattle 2, Boston 0															
Anaheim 11, Chicago White Sox 0															
Oakland 1, Cleveland 0															
NATIONAL LEAGUE															
East Division															
Atlanta	84	58	.592	-											
Florida	74	65	.532	81/2											
Philadelphia	74	69	.517	101/2											
New York	61	81	.430	23											
Montreal	59	83	.415	25											
Central Division															
St. Louis	94	48	.662	-											
Chicago	76	64	.543	17											
Houston	78	66	.542	17											
Pittsburgh	66	77	.462	281/2											
Cincinnati	65	77	.458	29											
Milwaukee	62	79	.440	311/2											
West Division															
Los Angeles	83	59	.585	-											
San Francisco	79	65	.549	5											
San Diego	76	67	.531	71/2											
Colorado	62	80	.437	21											
Arizona	43	100	.301	401/2											
Yesterday's Games															
Atlanta 9, Montreal 8, 12 innings															
Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Mets 2															
Milwaukee 11, Cincinnati 0															
Florida 11, Chicago Cubs 1															
San Diego 15, Colorado 2															
St. Louis 7, Los Angeles 6															
San Francisco 5, Arizona 2															
Houston 5, Pittsburgh 4, 10 innings															
NFL STANDINGS															
AFC East					W	L	T	Pct.							
N.Y. Jets					1	0	0	1.000							
New England					1	0	0	1.000							
Buffalo					0	1	0	.000							
Miami					0	1	0	.000							
North															
Cleveland					1	0	0	1.000							
Pittsburgh					1	0	0	1.000							
Baltimore					0	1	0	.000							
Cincinnati					0	1	0	.000							
South															
Jacksonville					1	0	0	1.000							
Tennessee					1	0	0	1.000							
Houston					0	1	0	.000							
Indianapolis					0	1	0	.000							
West															
Denver					1	0	0	1.000							
San Diego					1	0	0	1.000							
Kansas City					0	1	0	.000							
Oakland					0	1	0	.000							
NFC East															
Philadelphia					1	0	0	1.000							
Washington					1	0	0	1.000							
Dallas					0	1	0	.000							
N.Y. Giants					0	1	0	.000							
North															
Detroit					1	0	0	1.000							
Minnesota					1	0	0	1.000							
Green Bay					0	0	0	.000							
Chicago					0	1	0	.000							
South															
Atlanta					1	0	0	1.000							
Carolina					0	0	0	.000							
New Orleans					0	1	0	.000							
Tampa Bay					0	1	0	.000							
West															
Seattle					1	0	0	1.000							
St. Louis					1	0	0	1.000							
Arizona					0	1	0	.000							
San Francisco					0	1	0	.000							
Yesterday's Games															
Detroit 20, Chicago 16															
N.Y. Jets 31, Cincinnati 24															
Pittsburgh 24, Oakland 21															
San Diego 27, Houston 20															
St. Louis 17, Arizona 10															
Washington 16, Tampa Bay 10															
Seattle 21, New Orleans 7															
Jacksonville 13, Buffalo 10															
Cleveland 20, Baltimore 3															
Atlanta 21, San Francisco 19															
Minnesota 35, Dallas 17															
Philadelphia 31, N.Y. Giants 17															
Denver 34, Kansas City 24															
BELL CANADIAN OPEN SCORES															
Final Round															
(x-Won on third playoff hole)															
x-Vijay Singh					68-66-72-69	275									
Mike Weir					68-65-70-72	275									
Joe Ogilvie					70-69-69-69	277									
Justin Rose					70-70-75-63	278									
Tom Lehman					74-70-70-64	278									
Hunter Mahan					72-69-69-68	278									
Stewart Cink					72-68-69-69	278									
Robert Dammron					72-71-70-66	279									
Mark Hensby					70-69-70-71	280									
Jesper Parnevik					69-66-71-74	280									
Billy Andrade					67-75-71-68	281									
David Sutherland					69-72-68-72	281									
D.J. Brigman					67-74-67-73	281									
Pat Perez					68-68-78-68	282									
David Brashaw					71-65-75-71	282									
Dean Wilson					71-70-69-72	282									
Steve Lowery					70-69-70-73	282									
Cliff Kresge					69-70-67-76	282									
Jose Coceres					72-70-74-67	283									
Arjun Atwal					71-67-75-70	283									
Kenny Perry					71-67-74-71	283									
Glen Day					70-69-70-74	283									
Bill Haas					71-71-67-74	283									
Casey Wittenberg					73-72-71-68	284									
Chris DiMarco					69-71-73-71	284									
Craig Perks					70-72-75-68	285									
Bob Tway					74-71-70-70	285									
Roland Thatcher					72-72-71-70	285									
Corey Pavin					73-70-72-70	285									
Bill Glasson					72-70-73-70	285									
Joey Sindelar					66-73-74-72	285									
Brett Quigley					69-71-73-72	285									
Chad Campbell					73-68-72-72	285									
David Peoples					69-70-73-73	285									
Craig Barlow					67-69-75-74	285									
Dudley Hart					72-73-73-68	286									
David Edwards					72-69-74-71	286									
Richard S. Johnson					73-70-71-72	286									
Roger Tambellini					71-71-69-75	286									
David Frost					73-71-71-72	287									
Jason Bohn					73-70-72-72	287									
Davis Love III					72-73-68-74	287									
Greg Chalmers					71-72-70-74	287									
Tommy Tolles					72-70-78-68	288									
Esteban Toledo					76-68-72-72	288									
Jonathan Byrd					72-70-69-77	288									
Jim Rutledge					74-71-75-69	289									
Mark Brooks					69-73-76-71	289									
Fred Funk					74-70-72-73	289									
Mark Wilson					74-70-71-74	289									
Tim Petrovic					72-70-73-74	289									
Steve Flesch					73-71-75-71	290									
David Duval					71-72-76-71	290									
Omar Uresti					74-70-74-72	290									
Todd Fischer					71-71-75-73	290									
Tag Ridings					68-76-72-74	290									
Phil Mickelson					75-69-79-68	291									
Jim McGovern					71-72-76-72	291									
Billy Mayfair					70-74-72-75	291									
Neal Lancaster					71-70-75-75	291									
Garrett Willis					71-74-75-72	292									
Tom Carter					72-71-76-73	292									
Dennis Paulson					69-72-75-76	292									
Brian Kortan					71-74-70-77	292									
Paul Azinger					72-68-74-78	292									
Aaron Barber					72-73-75-73	293									
Jim Carter					72-69-78-74	293									
Danny Briggs					69-73-77-74	293									
Justin Leonard					76-66-77-74	293									
Dicky Pride					72-72-77-73	294									
Grant Waite					75-70-73-76	294									
Larry Mize					76-68-74-76	294									
David Morland IV					70-73-73-78	294									
Dirk Ayers					72-71-79-73	295									
Kevin Sutherland					74-71-75-75	295									
John Rollins					74-71-74-76	295									
Andre Stolz					71-74-77-74	296									
Chris Couch					71-71-79-83	304									
SPORTS TRANSACTIONS															
MLB															
SEATTLE MARINERS-Called up LHP Randy Williams from Tacoma of the PCL.															
NEW YORK METS-Placed RHP Matt Ginter on the 60-day DL. Recalled OF Victor Diaz from Norfolk of the IL.															
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES-Activated RHP Kevin Millwood from the 15-day DL.															
NFL															
ATLANTA FALCONS-Waived S Etric Pruitt. Signed LB Terrence Melton from the practice squad.															
BUFFALO BILLS-Reached an injury settlement with QB Travis Brown.															
GREEN BAY PACKERS-Signed CB Al Harris to a five-year contract extension. Released TE Steve Bush.															
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS-Activated S Bob Sanders. Waived FB Cary Davis. Signed DT Jason Stewart to the practice squad.															
MIAMI DOLPHINS-Released RB Fred Russell from the practice squad. Signed RB Leonard Henry to the practice squad.															
MINNESOTA VIKINGS-Signed OT Mike Rosenthal to a six-year contract extension.															
OAKLAND RAIDERS-Activated CB Charles Woodson. Traded DT Chris Cooper to Dallas for future considerations.															
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS-Waived TE Kevin Ware. Signed FB Matt Stanley from the practice squad.															
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS-Activated OT Walter Jones. Signed WR Jerheme Urban to the practice squad. Waived G Jerry Wunsch.															
By The Associated Press															

